

Description of 2 New LPC Initiatives to be Supported by Charitable Gifts

To Create, Launch and Support a Pastor Intern Program (PIP)

and

To Create an Endowment Fund for LPC Buildings, Grounds & Campus Capital Projects

for

Lowcountry Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Craig Johnson, an LPC Member who joined our church in 2021, has been inspired by worshiping at LPC, the example of the Al & Marian Thomas Family, and the recently completed renovation of Thomas Hall, to make a charitable gift to Lowcountry Presbyterian Church in order to help LPC create and launch:

- A new Pastor Intern Program (PIP Program)
- A new Buildings, Grounds & Campus Endowment Fund, to help pay for future capital projects as they are needed over the coming decades

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The Pastor Intern Program funding will provide a monthly cash stipend to a Presbyterian Seminary student to spend a 6 to 12 month internship at LPC, working for and studying under the LPC Pastors. Contributions will be matched 50% by our donor with a goal of funding the Pastor Intern Program for the first three years 2024-2026.

The Pastor Intern's role will include 3 primary focus areas:

1. **Working with LPC Pastors and LPC Mission & Social Witness Ministry Team for Programs Using Thomas Hall** - LPC's Pastor Intern will play a major role in working with the LPC's Mission & Social Witness organization partners, particularly the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) after-school program that is now once again using LPC's Thomas Hall every weekday afternoon. The Pastor Intern will also work to support LPC's Pastors and the LPC Mission & Social Witness Ministry team to expand LPC's mission outreach to include new M&SW partner organizations who could also have meetings and events at the Thomas Hall facility to expand programs to serve the Bluffton community.
2. **Serve as an "aide-de-camp" to both of LPC's Pastors** - The Pastor Intern will attend meetings and events with our LPC Pastors to experience real-life field work as a Presbyterian Pastor through a full church year lifecycle, while performing analyst and communications activities to support Rev. Herrin and Rev. Johnson in their work. (Note the Pastor Intern will only participate in non-confidential activities).
3. **Study Homiletics & Pastor Oratory under LPC Pastors Revs. Herrin and Johnson** - The final component of the gift is to fund a new LPC commitment to Homiletics & Pastoral Oratory, with each of LPC's Pastor Intern candidates also committed to study and learn how to preach effectively, and how to create, write and deliver impactful sermons. The Pastor Interns will study with our LPC Pastors, and also will engage with and learn from LPC Guest Preachers. The new LPC Johnson Family Fund for Homiletics & Pastoral Oratory will also support publication of LPC Pastor sermons, LPC Guest Preacher visits, and other activities to enable the full LPC Community to continue to enjoy and learn from outstanding preaching.

Terms of the LPC Pastor Internship include the following:

- A 6 to 12 month internship by a Presbyterian Seminary student in school (i.e., gap year)
- Pastor Intern will be paid a monthly cash stipend from the LPC Pastor Intern Program Fund
- LPC Members will provide the Pastor Intern with free residence for 3 months at a time
- Pastor Intern will be an LPC employee, but will not receive health, pension, etc. benefits
- Pastor Intern must have and use their own car
- The Pastor Intern role is a full-time job

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The LPC Buildings, Grounds & Campus Endowment Fund is a new LPC giving opportunity for both our LPC Congregation members as well as our LPC guests, program participants, friends and sponsors. This newly created Endowment Fund will be primarily dedicated to accumulating and investing the principal of long-term gifts, to match up with the long-term capital project needs to sustain our LPC Buildings, Grounds & Campus.

Donations to the Endowment Fund will include regular one-time gifts, but also multi-year planned gifts as well as personal bequests to be paid at the time a donor dies. The Endowment Fund principal will therefore build up over time, and will add interest and gains. The Building & Grounds Ministry team will develop long-term capital plans and budgets to best use the Endowment Fund funding for LPC projects.

The new Endowment Fund would be committed to help pay for future capital repairs and improvements, particularly for the Sanctuary Building and Thomas Hall, but also for other suitable projects across LPC's Grounds & Campus, including the playground area, the sheds and outbuildings, and the surrounding forested areas across the LPC-owned land.

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Note this is **NOT** intended to be a Congregation-wide capital giving campaign. The LPC Congregation has already given significant generous funding over the last 2 years to support both LPC's AV System project and the Thomas Hall Renovation projects, as well as regular yearly Stewardship giving.

However, we hope that some LPC Members & Friends will now be personally inspired or called to make additional individual gifts to either the Pastor Intern Program Fund or the Endowment Fund for LPC Buildings, Grounds & Campus.

- Year-End 2023 Gifts can be made to either the new Pastor Intern Fund or one of the items from the Capital Giving Ideas List of capital projects to be installed in 2024
- The new LPC Endowment Fund will be created by April 1, 2024 and will be able to accept gifts and bequests at that time

For Year-End 2023 Gifts, please enclose a note to indicate whether your gift is for the Pastor Intern Program or one of the capital projects, and mail your check or drop it off at the LPC church office, attention: Finance.

Should you have any further questions about these two new initiatives and the related giving opportunities, please contact Admin & Finance Ministry Elder Jan Alpert at JanAlpert@aol.com.